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60,130-2363

REMARKS

Claims 1-2, 4-6, 13-14, and 20-30 remain pending in the application including independent claims 1, 13, and 22. Claims 3-5, 7-12, and 15-18 were cancelled in the previous amendment. Claim 19 is cancelled by the present amendment.

Claim 19 has been rewritten in independent form by being incorporated into claim 13 from which claim 19 directly depended.

Claims 4-5, 19-21, 25, and 28-29 have been amended in response to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, identified by the examiner at Item 2 of the present office action. Applicant respectfully asserts that the claims as amended are fully compliant with 35 U.S.C. 112.

Claims 1-2, 4-6, 13-14, and 19-30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US 6484877 to Murakami. Claim 1 recites each of the two first support members comprises a discrete rectangular plate having a length that is substantially greater than a width, and that each of the two second support members comprises a discrete rectangular plate having a length that is substantially greater than a width. Murakami does not disclose such a configuration.

The examiner argues that Figure 17 of Murakami discloses such a configuration. However, elements 1a and 1b are not discrete rectangular plates as defined in the claims. The term "discrete" means:

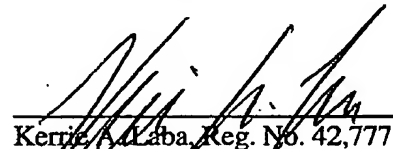
1) apart or detached from others; separate; distinct: ...; 2) consisting of or characterized by distinct or individual parts; discontinuous. See Dictionary.com Unabridged (v 1.0.1); based on the Random House Unabridged Dictionary, © Random House, Inc. 2006.

Elements 1a and 1b are positively connected with each other at areas 13a and 13b. This is described at col. 8, lines 2-5. As the elements 1a and 1b are attached to each other, they cannot be reasonably interpreted as being "detached from others" or "discontinuous." Thus, Murakami cannot anticipate claim 1. For similar reasons Murakami does not anticipate claims 19 and 22.

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Applicant asserts that all claims are now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests an indication of such. Applicant believes that no additional fees are necessary; however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1482 in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayment.

Respectfully submitted,




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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States patent and Trademark Office, fax number (571) 273-8300, on October 31, 2006.



Laura Combs